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(54) Method and Device for Securing Computers

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ABSTRACT

10 A device for securing computers is in the form of an internally
installed computer card. The computer card plugs into an ISA bus slot in a
PC. The computer card includes a computer interface and microcontroller.
The microcontroller has inputs for motion, power and tamper sensors and
communicates with an on-board basic input/output system (BIOS) EEPROM
15 for storing a BIOS security program and a serial EEPROM for storing security
parameters and access passwords. The computer card includes a power
circuit with NiCd batteries and a recharger for operating the device while the
computer is off. The computer card is given a unique physical device
address prior to installation. When the computer is powered up, the
20 computer card is addressed by the computer during its BIOS start-up
routine. The internal BIOS security program is then initialized, requiring a
password before start-up continues. A password hierarchy provides for
multiple levels of access to the security capabilities.

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR SECURING COMPUTERS

This invention relates to securing computers and is particularly concerned with both physical security of computers and security of data stored therein.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Methods and devices for securing computers are well known. Typically, the prior art addresses either physical security of the computer through lock or alarm systems or security of data stored on the computer through password protection.

There have been a few proposals that address both physical and data security in a single apparatus. For example, Reinke et al, in U.S. Patent 4,908,608 teach a security device with an alarm device. The software program, which activates the alarm device, is used like a key to enable and disable the alarm. Optionally, a password can be established, allowing a user owning the password, to enable and disable the alarm device. The alarm password entry may prevent unauthorized access to the computer. However, the operation of the alarm device depends upon the computer being booted. Thus, anyone having knowledge of the presence of such a device, could interrupt boot up the computer from the hard drive and continue from a disk-drive to edit the AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files to defeat the password feature.

In fact any security system relying on the AUTOEXEC.BAT file during boot-up of an IBM compatible computer can be circumvented.

This problem has been recognized in a prior art device.

McClung et al, in U.S. Patent No. 4,951,249 teach a computer security system for protecting the computer software from unauthorized use. During boot-up of the computer the scheme replaces the keyboard address and diskette address with addresses stored in ROM thereby locking out these devices. When unauthorized use of the keyboard or diskette insertion are attempted the boot-up routine ignores such and continues into

the security program. Because the keyboard is locked out, this device requires an additional input device for an authorized user to login. A card reader is used, together with a personal identification number (PIN) to achieve this. Once the correct user has been thereby identified a password
5 procedure is used to allow access to the computer. While this system may be effective at preventing overriding during boot-up, it requires an additional input device and user cards. Hence, it is more costly and may require more complex administrative support.

10 SUMMARY OF INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide an improved method and device for securing computers.

In accordance with an aspect of the present invention there is provided a device for securing a computer comprising means for interfacing
15 with the computer via a bus internal to the computer, means for monitoring status of the computer and for establishing an alarm condition responsive to a change in status, means for powering the device during intervals where the computer is in an off state, means for interrupting normal start-up of the computer during a basic input/output system portion thereof, and means for
20 accepting a password from a user to continue normal start-up of the computer.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of securing a computer comprising the steps of providing storage for a stored password, during start-up of the computer, upon
25 addressing by the computer, initiating a program requesting input of the password, comparing the password input to the stored password, and allowing completion of start-up of the computer to continue if the password input matches the password stored.

In accordance with a further aspect of the present invention there is provided a device for securing a computer comprising a microcontroller, a
30 plurality of security sensors connected to the microcontroller, an alarm output connected to the microcontroller, an interface connected to the

microcontroller for communicating with an internal bus in the computer, a basic input and output system (BIOS) program store connected to the microcontroller and the interface, a memory decoder connected to the interface, the microcontroller and the BIOS program store, a non-volatile
5 store for security parameters and passwords, and a power circuit for powering the device during intervals when the computer is off.

Advantages of the present invention include combining physical security of the computer with data security and providing password protection that cannot be bypassed by an informed user.

10

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will be further understood from the following description with reference to the drawings in which:

FIG. 1 illustrates, in a block diagram, a computer security device in
15 accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2a illustrates, in a step chart, the microcontroller software flow for the computer security device of FIG. 1;

FIG. 2b illustrates, in a step chart, the microcontroller tasks for the computer security device of FIG. 1; and

20 FIGS. 3a - 3e illustrate, in a step chart, a method of securing a computer through password verification during booting-up the computer in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention, using the computer security device of FIG. 1.

Referring to FIG. 1 there is illustrated in the block diagram a computer
25 security device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The computer security device includes a computer card 10 having a PC ISA bus 12 and two RJ-11 jacks 14 and 16. The computer card 10 includes a microcontroller 18, a computer subcircuit 20, an alarm subcircuit 22 and a power subcircuit 24. The computer subcircuit 20 includes a PC bus
30 interface 30, a nonvolatile memory, serial EEPROM 34, a BIOS program EPROM 36, and an address selector 38. The alarm subcircuit 22 includes motion/tilt detectors 40 and 42, an alarm relay 44 connected to RJ-11 jack

16, an input line connected to RJ-11 jack 14. In addition the computer card includes an internal piezo transducer 50. Optional connection to an external alarm monitoring system is provided through the RJ-11 jack 16. A PC chassis tamper sensor 54 is connected via the line 46 and optional external
5 tampers 56, 58 and 60 are connected serially through the RJ-11 jack 14.

 The microcontroller 18 on the computer card 10 provides secure and independent firmware based access control. The microcontroller 18 also provides a multi-channel analog to digital converter at a lower cost than discrete components. The microcontroller 18 provides the following
10 functions:

- Processing sensor lines as analog levels determining alarm and tamper states;
- Filtering of sensor inputs to provide a measure of false alarm rejection;
- 15 • Secure password verification in combination with BIOS program;
- Piezo transducer control, timed alarm blast, warning blast, low battery chirp;
- Read and act on option selection by jumper;
- 20 • Drive external alarm system relay interface; and
- Power supply monitoring.

 An example of a suitable microcontroller is a Microchip 16C74 incorporating 4 Kbytes of ROM and 192 bytes of RAM, an onboard 8 input 8 bit ADC, parallel 8 bit slave port, PWM module, a power up timer, a
25 oscillator start-up timer, a watchdog timer, and communications ports.

 The computer subcircuit 20 and the microcontroller 18 handle the data security of the computer security device. In the computer subcircuit 20, the microcontroller 18 communicates with the PC ISA bus 12 via the PC bus interface 30. The PC bus interface 30 includes the hardware interface
30 to the ISA bus in the computer, that is bus drivers and latches necessary for an ISA bus interface. The PC bus interface may be implemented, for example by four 74ALS245 octal bus transceivers.

The serial EEPROM 34 stores security parameters and passwords for secure access to the computer under the control of the microcontroller 18 and the BIOS EEPROM 36. The serial EEPROM 34 holds the current password(s), security parameters associated with each level of password and a real time count to support a limitation on password re-try. This information is not accessible from the PC bus for security reasons. There is no way to read out the password data from the PC under any circumstances. An example of a suitable serial EEPROM is a 1024-bit Microchip 24LC01 configured as 128x8.

The BIOS EPROM 36 provides the program used during start-up of the computer to require the entry of a correct password and allows changing of passwords and security parameters, depending upon the security level of the password entered. The BIOS EPROM 36 is memory mapped so that it executes upon boot-up of the computer. Its programming requires a basic password entry sequence to be correctly completed before resuming and completing the boot-up process. The code supports a password edit function.

Using a BIOS program affords a high level of security because execution of this code cannot be interrupted or bypassed by an informed user. The BIOS program allows a hierarchy of several levels of operator, each with different capabilities.

The address selector 38 is used, prior to installation of the computer card 10, to assign a computer device address for the computer card 10. The computer device address, which must be unique within the computer, ensures that the computer card 10 is addressed during the BIOS portion of startup of the computer. The address selector 38 uses a jumper block to enable the user to select different card addresses for compatibility with a wide variety of computers and configurations. Address decoding may be provided by, for example a Generic Array Logic (GAL) device, 16V8, that decode the BIOS address into user selectable 4000 H segments starting at C8000 H through DC000 H.

The alarm subcircuit 22 provides the alarm sensor inputs to the

microcontroller 18. The motion/tilt sensors 40 and 42 are oriented orthogonally to provide for either horizontal or vertical direction of the computer. On initialization, the microcontroller 18 senses which switch is "on" and which is "off". Any subsequent change in these state results in an alarm condition. The alarm relay 44 is a form C relay contact closure and is provided to interconnect the computer card 10 to a locally monitored security system.

Tilt/motion sensors 40 and 42 detect tilting and course movements of the PC chassis typical of those experienced during unit relocation, are included on the circuit card. Two sensors are planned to detect movement conveniently and tilt in two axes, respectively. Sensors 40 and 42 are based on a mercury contact switch principle.

The PC chassis tamper sensor 54 is provided to ensure that access to the computer hardware is detected. A combined switch contact-based and mercury switch sensor is contemplated.

Two RJ-11 jacks 14 and 16 are accessible at the rear of the computer for optional sensor or system interconnections. The first is provided to connect to a series string of peripheral tamper sensors for protecting keyboard, protector external devices. The second is the interface to an external alarm monitoring system. The internal piezo transducer or sonalert device is the main source of alarm indication once a sensor detects an alarm condition.

The power subcircuit 24 includes a battery charger 62, two AA NiCd batteries 64 and a step-up converter 66. The battery charger 62 is connected to the +5V power lead of the PC ISA bus 12 and provides a charge indicator signal to the microcontroller 18 and power to the NiCd batteries 64 and to the step-up converter 66.

The battery charger 62 is included to re-charge the NiCd batteries 64 when the computer is in the AC on state. An example of a suitable battery charger is a Benchmark 2003.

The step-up converter 66 has a +5V DC output. The +5V DC output powers the alarm card 10 when the computer is in an "off"

condition. The piezo or sonalert voltage, provided by a separate 9 V battery (not shown in Fig. 1), powers the internal piezo transducer or sonalert when the computer is in an "off" condition. The step-up converter 66 provides a low battery indication signal to the microcontroller 18. The step-up
5 converter 66 steps the battery voltage from a nominal 2.4 V up to a higher voltage of 5 V for digital component function during AC off operation. It does not produce a higher voltage for the piezo transducer or sonalert. Many of these devices require higher drive voltages to achieve the full sound output level, hence a separate 9 V battery is provide for this purpose. An
10 example of a suitable step-up converter is a Maxim 856.

Two AA NiCd batteries 64 are included in a battery holder on the computer card 10 for operation in the powered down state of the computer. It is estimated that these batteries would operate the system for one month
15 without recharging.

The option selector 52 is in the form of option set-up jumpers. These jumpers allow set-up of the features and modes of operation of the computer security device. Selectable functions may include the following features:

- 20 • Hardware disable of the different sensor elements when they are not used;
- Long or short time limit on alarm audio (e.g., 5 min or 30 min.);
- Silent operation, for those utilizing the alarm system interconnect;
- 25 • BIOS disable for those wanting only component security, not data security;
- Enable unsuccessful password (5) timeout feature, 30 min delay to retry;

For security reasons, these jumpers are only read by the
30 microcontroller upon entry of the highest level (Administrator) password, thus preventing the possibility of a user or supervisor disabling the system. These features are hardware keyed by the option selector 52 for some

installations. Many of these same features are security parameters selectable as software options, as described hereinbelow in regard to Figs 3a through 3e.

5 Operation of the computer security device of Fig. 1 is described with reference to Figs. 2a and b and 3a through e.

 In operation, the microcontroller 18 when powered up performs several actions as represented by the step chart of Fig. 2a. Once operational, the microcontroller 18 performs several tasks as shown in Fig. 2b. As represented by step 1, the microcontroller 18 periodically measures
10 the external tamper sensor input, RJ-11 14 and reports any deviation via the piezo transducer 50 and the alarm relay 44. An analog to digital converter is provided in the microcontroller 18 for analog inputs. The A/D converter digitizes alarm sensor input. The sensor input signal is then digitally filtered to reject false alarm conditions. As represented by step 2, the
15 microcontroller 18, via the analog inputs measures the battery voltages under load when the computer is powered up or reset or when instructed to do so by the BIOS program. As represented by step 3, the microcontroller 18, through inputs configured as state change interrupts for the microcontroller, monitors the low battery indication from the step up
20 converter 66, the tilt/motion sensors 40 and 42, and chassis tamper sensor 54 and reports any deviation via the piezo transducer 50 and the alarm relay 44. As represented by step 4, the microcontroller 18, via the serial link 32 checks the status of the serial EEPROM as required, and may correct if possible. As represented by step 5, the microcontroller 18, loads the serial
25 EEPROM with default parameters if instructed to do so by the BIOS program or from hardware.

 Referring to Figs. 3a through 3e there is illustrated a step chart a method of securing a computer in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The method relies upon password verification during
30 booting up of the computer, in particular the basic input output system (BIOS) portion thereof, using the computer security device of Fig. 1.

 As described hereinabove, the address selector 38 is set to provide

the computer security device, as embodied in the computer card 10, a physical device address for the computer during BIOS boot-up. When the computer card 10 is addressed an internal BIOS program, stored in the BIOS EEPROM 36 is initiated, as represented by step 1.0 of Fig. 3a. The remaining steps of the internal BIOS program are self-explanatory from Figs. 3a-3e.

While the present embodiment uses five (5) retries during password entry and verification, this number may be chosen to be any desired number.

Preferably, a hierarchy of password protection is provided. For example, a three-level password hierarchy has a user password level, a supervisor password level, and an administration password level. Each level of password has an associated capability set. For example, the following capabilities may be associated with each password level:

15 User

This is a simple access code that, when correctly entered, allows the normal processes in the computer boot sequence to complete. This access code allows unrestricted use of the computing facilities but maintains the integrity of the other security features. The user level only allows changing the password. In the present embodiment a User password consists of a four (4) alphanumeric characters.

Supervisor

Entry of a password defined as supervisory level results in a simple text based menu bar appearing. Available functions are:

- Edit User or Supervisor password
- Disable internal motion and peripheral sensors
- Enable internal motion and peripheral sensors
- Lists current sensor status, enable, disable, alarm and tamper states

- Continue boot sequence

When correctly entered, the internal motion/tilt sensors are disabled, until the computer is reset or turned off, at which time the sensors are re-enabled. In the present embodiment a Supervisor password consists of a five (5) alphanumeric characters.

Administrator

Entry of the Administrator level password results in a text based menu bar appearing which has enhanced features. Available functions are:

- Edit User, Supervisor or Administrator password
- Disable internal motion & tamper and peripheral sensors
- Enable internal motion & tamper and peripheral sensors
- List current sensor status, enable/disable, alarm and tamper states
- View security system diagnostic reports
- Change security parameters, such as number of peripheral sensors, enable/disable of warning chirp, low battery chirp, password entry and choosing password time-out period, alarm duration, menu language
- Continue boot up sequence

When correctly entered, the internal motion/tilt sensors are disabled, until the computer is reset or turned off, at which time the sensors are re-enabled. In the present embodiment a Administrator password consists of a six (6) alphanumeric characters.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for securing a computer comprising:
 - means for interfacing with the computer via a bus internal to the computer;
 - 5 means for monitoring status of the computer and for establishing an alarm condition responsive to a change in status;
 - means for powering the device during intervals where the computer is in an off state;
 - means for interrupting normal start-up of the computer during a basic input/output system portion thereof; and
 - 10 means for accepting a password from a user to continue normal start-up of the computer.
2. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the means for monitoring includes means for sensing a plurality of conditions of the computer and means for enabling the means for sensing.
- 15 3. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the means for interrupting normal start-up includes address decoding means for providing a physical device address to the computer during start-up.
- 20 4. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the means for interrupting normal start-up includes program storage means for storing a basic input and output system (BIOS) program whereby addressing of the device by the computer during start-up initiates the BIOS program.
- 25 5. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the means for accepting a password includes a non-volatile memory means for storing the password to be compared to the password entered by the user.
- 30 6. A device as claimed in claim 5 wherein the non-volatile memory means cannot be read by a user of the computer.

7. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the means for powering includes rechargeable battery means.

8. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the means for powering includes battery charger means.

9. A method of securing a computer comprising the steps of:
providing storage for a stored password;
during start-up of the computer, upon addressing by the computer,
10 initiating a program requesting input of the password;
comparing the password input to the stored password; and
allowing completion of start-up of the computer to continue if the
password input matches the password stored.

10. A method as claimed in claim 9 further comprising the step of
prompting a user of the computer to change the stored password, prior to
the step of allowing completion of start-up of the computer.

11. A method as claimed in claim 9 further comprising the steps of
20 providing security monitoring sensors and providing storage for security
parameters for configuring the security monitoring sensors; and
prompting a user of the computer to change the security parameters
prior to the step of allowing completion of start-up of the computer.

12. A device for securing a computer comprising:
a microcontroller;
a plurality of security sensors connected to the microcontroller;
an alarm output connected to the microcontroller;
an interface connected to the microcontroller for communicating with
25 an internal bus in the computer;
a basic input and output system (BIOS) program store connected to
the microcontroller and the interface;

a memory decoder connected to the interface, the microcontroller and the BIOS program store;

a non-volatile store for security parameters and passwords; and

5 a power circuit for powering the device during intervals when the computer is off.

13. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the microcontroller includes an analog to digital converter.

10 14. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the plurality of security sensors includes a tilt and motion sensor.

15 15. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the plurality of security sensors includes a low battery sensor.

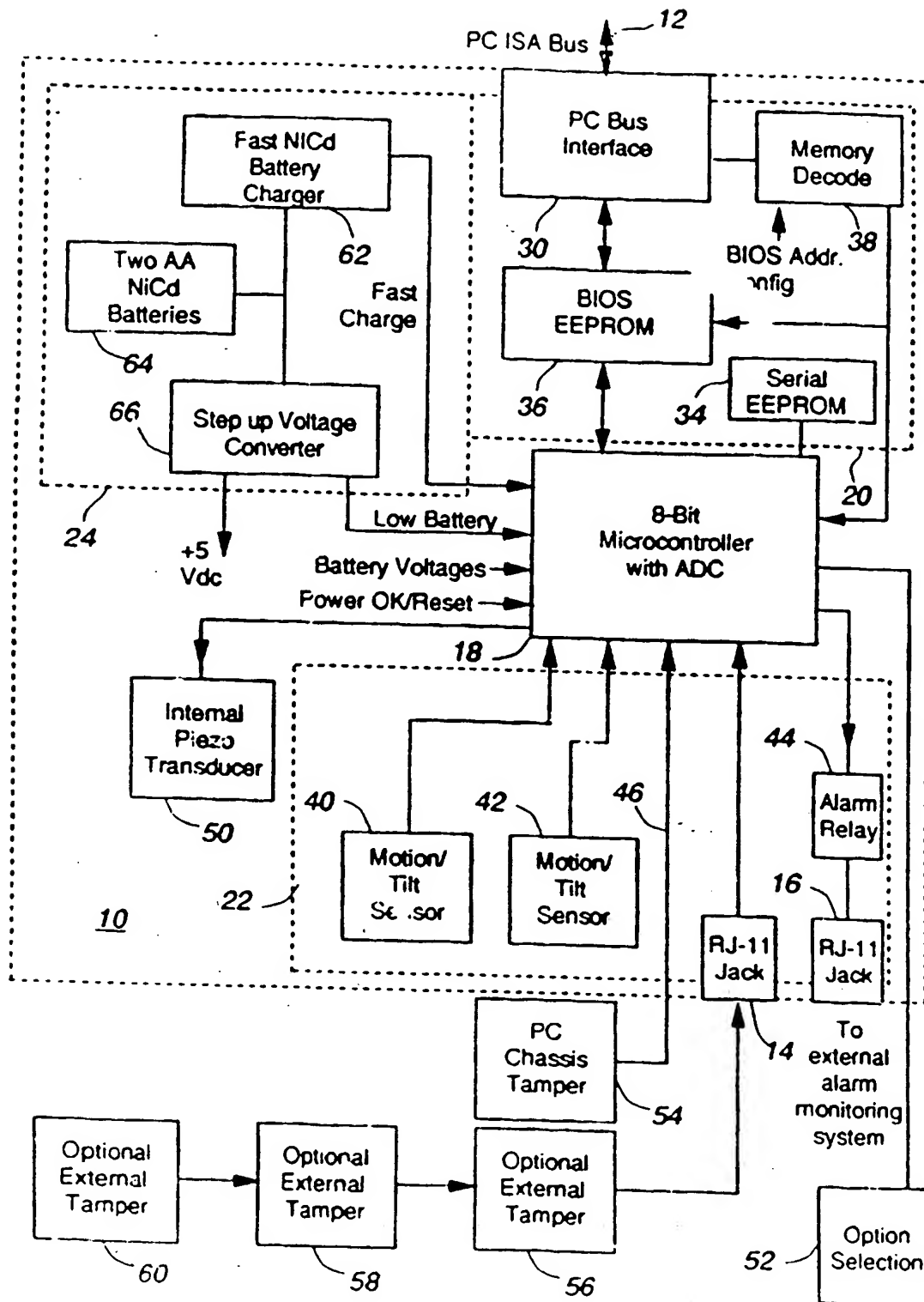
16. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the plurality of security sensors includes a battery voltage sensor.

20 17. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the plurality of security sensors includes a computer chassis tamper sensor.

18. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the plurality of security sensors includes a peripheral tamper sensor.

25 19. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the alarm output includes a piezo transducer.

20. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the alarm output includes an external alarm system connection.

**Fig. 1**

Step	Status	Event	Action
1.0	Microcontroller is powered down	<p>User powers up microcontroller</p> <p>Microcontroller determines that there is a ROM or RAM error</p> <p>Microcontroller determines that there is a EEPROM error bad part or bad data</p> <p>Microcontroller executes code as per default parameters until instructions from BIOS updated</p>	<p>Microcontroller performs self tests (ROM, RAM, EEPROM)</p> <p>Attempts to signal BIOS of error</p> <p>Attempts to signal BIOS of bad part</p> <p>If just bad data, then default parameters loaded</p>

Fig. 2a

Step	Tasks for microcontroller
1	Periodically measure external tamper sensor input and report any deviation
2	Measure battery voltages under load when computer powered up, reset or otherwise instructed to do so by BIOS
3	Respond to low battery, tilt and chassis tamper indications and report any deviation
4	Check status of EEPROM as required, correct if possible
5	Load EEPROM with default if instructed from BIOS or hardware

Fig. 2b

Step	Status	Event	Action
1.0	Computer OFF	User turns computer ON	Computer executes BIOS code and displays power up screen
		BIOS executes security self-test	If tests failed goto step 1.1, if passed goto step 1.2
1.1	Security inoperative	Not further actions permitted	BIOS displays a warning message
1.2		Executes Battery tests	BIOS displays appropriate message
1.3		Check EEPROM	BIOS displays appropriate message
1.4		Check for password time out	If time out in effect, goto step 2.1.2, if not goto 2.0
2.0	Security power up screen displayed	Password entry	BIOS prompts for password entry
2.0.1		User enters Password	BIOS displays block character
2.1	Password entered	Password validity and number of attempts checked	If invalid goto 2.1.1, If attempts number exceeded goto 2.1.2, if valid goto 2.1.3
2.1.1	Invalid password entered		BIOS displays a password retry screen, goes to 2.0
2.1.2	Allowed password attempts made	Password entry timeout invoked	BIOS displays a password time-out screen
	Keyboard entry denied	Time-out expired	Number of attempts cleared loops to 2.0
2.1.3	Valid password has been recognized	Password level checked	BIOS determines if Password level is: user goto 3.0, supervisor goto 4.0, administrator goto 5.0

Fig. 3a

Step	Status	Event	Action
3.0	Valid User password entered	User prompted for input	BIOS displays user prompt screen, press any key to continue, F1 to change password
	User has entered a keystroke	BIOS checks keystroke	If F1 goto 3.0.1, else computer powers up, internal motion sensors disabled
3.0.1	User password to be changed	Prompt for new User Password	BIOS displays user password screen
		New password entered	BIOS displays block characters
		BIOS checks number of characters e.g. 4	If Invalid goto 3.0.2 If valid goto 3.0.3
3.0.2	Invalid replacement password		BIOS informs user of invalid password, return to 3.0
3.0.3	First entry valid	Verify new password	BIOS displays User password verification screen
		User password re-entered	BIOS displays block characters
		BIOS compares to first entry	If invalid goto 3.0.2 If valid goto 3.0.4
3.0.4	Valid new User Password	Password stored in nonvolatile ROM	BIOS displays new password accepted Return to 3.0

Fig. 3b

Step	Status	Event	Action
4 0	Valid Supervisor password entered	User prompted for input	BIOS displays user prompt screen, press any key to continue, F1 to change User password, F2 to change Supervisor password, F4 to change security parameters If F1 goto 3.0.1, F2 goto 4.0.1 F4 goto 4.1 else computer powers up. Internal motion sensors disabled
	User has entered a keystroke	BIOS checks keystroke	BIOS displays Super. password screen
4.0.1	Super. password to be changed	Prompt for new Super. Password	BIOS displays block characters
		New Super. password entered	If invalid goto 4.0.2 If valid goto 4.0.3 BIOS informs user of invalid password, return to 3.0
4.0.2	Invalid replacement password	BIOS checks number of characters e.g. 5	BIOS displays Super. password verification screen BIOS displays block characters
4.0.3	First entry valid	Verify new password	If invalid goto 4.0.2 If valid goto 4.0.4
		Super. password re-entered	
		BIOS compares to first entry	
4.0.4	Valid new Super. Password	Password stored in nonvolatile ROM	BIOS displays new password accepted. Return to call point
4 1	Security Parameters to be changed	Obtain current status	BIOS displays status and instructions: If F7 toggle parameter and goto 4.1, if F8 goto 4.1.1 if Esc goto 4.0
4.1.1	To change No. of tamper sensors		BIOS prompts for new number.
		New number entered	BIOS checks validity, if valid make change and goto 4.1 If invalid BIOS displays error message, then goto 4.1

Fig. 3c

Step	Status	Event	Action
5.0	Valid Administrator password entered	User prompted for input	BIOS displays user prompt screen, press any key to continue, F1 to change User password, F2 to change Supervisor password, F3 to change Administrator password, F4 to change security parameters, F5 to view Diagnostic Report, F6 to test Security system
	User has entered a keystroke	BIOS checks keystroke	If F1 goto 3.0.1, F2 goto 4.0.1, F3 goto 5.0.1, F4 goto 5.1, F5, goto 5.2, F6 goto 5.3, else computer powers up, internal motion sensors disabled
5.0.1	Admin. password to be changed	Prompt for new Admin. Password	BIOS displays Admin. password screen
		New Admin password entered	BIOS displays block characters
		BIOS checks number of characters e.g. 6	If invalid goto 5.0.2 If valid goto 5.0.3
5.0.2	Invalid replacement password		BIOS informs user of invalid password, return to call point
5.0.3	First entry valid	Verify new password	BIOS displays Admin. password verification screen BIOS displays block characters
		Admin. password re-entered BIOS compares to first entry	If invalid goto 5.0.2 If valid goto 5.0.4
5.0.4	Valid new Super. Password	Password stored in nonvolatile ROM	BIOS displays new password accepted. Return to call point

Fig. 3d

Step	Status	Event	Action
5.0.2	Invalid replacement password		BIOS informs user of invalid password, return to call point
5.0.3	First entry valid	Verify new password	BIOS displays Admin. password verification screen
		Admin. password re-entered	BIOS displays block characters
		BIOS compares to first entry	If invalid goto 5.0.2 If valid goto 5.0.4
5.0.4	Valid new Super. Password	Password stored in nonvolatile ROM	BIOS displays new password accepted. Return to call point
5.1	Security Parameters to be changed	Obtain current status	BIOS displays status and instructions: If F7 toggle parameter and goto 5.1, if F8 goto 5.1.1 if F9 goto 5.4, if Esc goto 5.0
5.1.1	To change No. of tamper sensors	New number, entered	BIOS prompts for new number, BIOS checks validity, if valid make change and goto 5.1 If invalid BIOS displays error message, then goto 5.1
5.2	Diagnostic report requested	BIOS obtains status	BIOS displays diagnostic report If Esc, goto 5.0
5.3	Security system test requested	BIOS displays test menu	BIOS displays test menu Do menu item if selected and goto 5.3, if Esc, turn off devices and goto 5.0
5.4	Additional features requested	BIOS displays additional feature menu	BIOS displays additional features menu Do menu item if selected and goto 5.4, if Esc goto 5.1

Fig. 3e

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